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Structures for Statewide Communication and Collaboration

Aundrea Kelley, Deputy Commissioner, P-16 Policy and Collaborative Initiatives
Massachusetts Department of Higher Education



MASSACHUSETTS
Department of
Higher Education

Massachusetts Context

Massachusetts Context

- 29 campuses - 25 Governing Boards
 - 15 Community Colleges
 - 9 State Universities
 - 5 campus UMass system
- 393 school districts – 275 RT3
 - Traditional
 - Regional
 - Charter
 - Vocational

Massachusetts Context

- Secretary
 - Mission, Budget
- 3 Boards
 - Higher Education – coordination; advocacy, assessment system
 - Elementary and Secondary Education - assessment system , licensure
 - Early Education and Care
- Educator Preparation
 - BHE approves programs
 - BESE sets licensure requirements



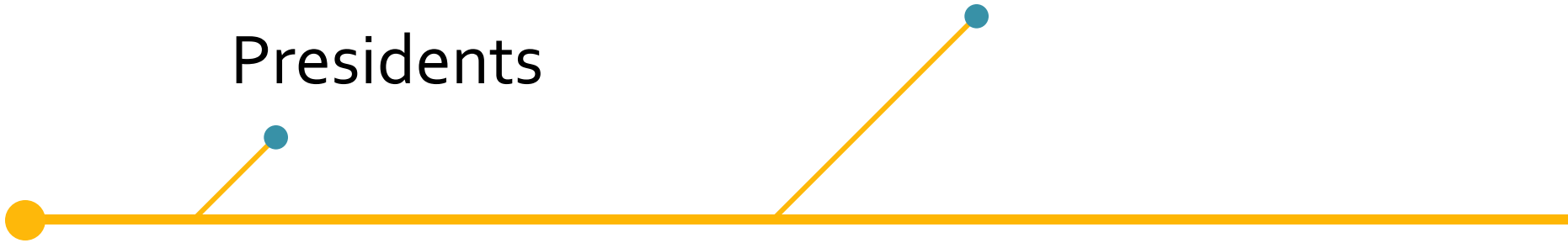
A Public Agenda for Higher Education in Massachusetts

- To rank among the top-performing states in five key areas of educational performance
 - **College Participation** of high school graduates
 - **College Completion** of the students we enroll
 - **Student Learning** on campus-level and national assessments of learning
 - **Workforce Alignment** of our degree programs with key areas of workforce need in the state's economy
 - **Elimination of Disparities** among different ethnic/racial, economic and gender groups
- To annually report publicly our standing in the five key areas

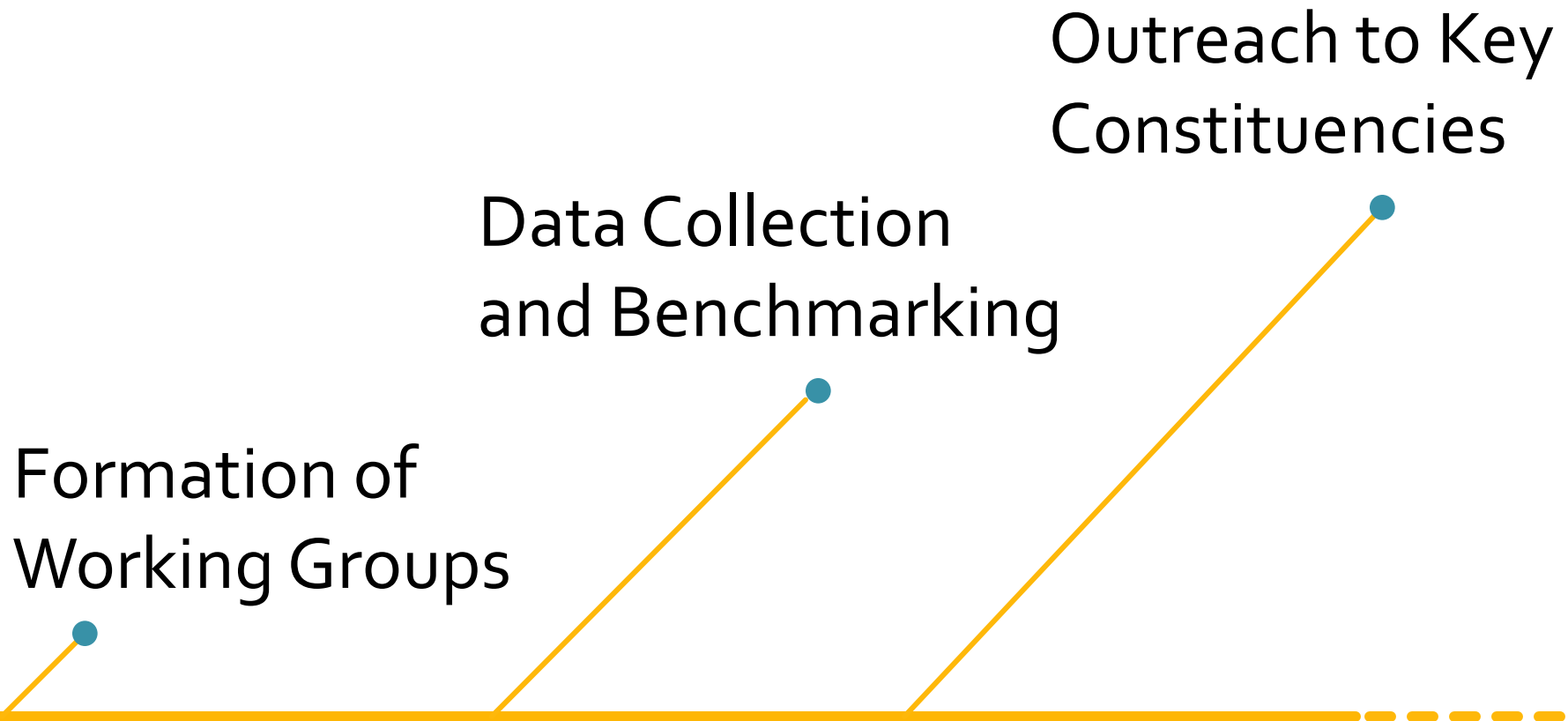
2009-2010: Gaining Support for the Vision Project

Working
with the
Presidents

Endorsement by
Massachusetts Board
of Higher Education—
May 2010



2010-2011: Organizing the Work





Learning Assessment

Collaborating Across Institutions

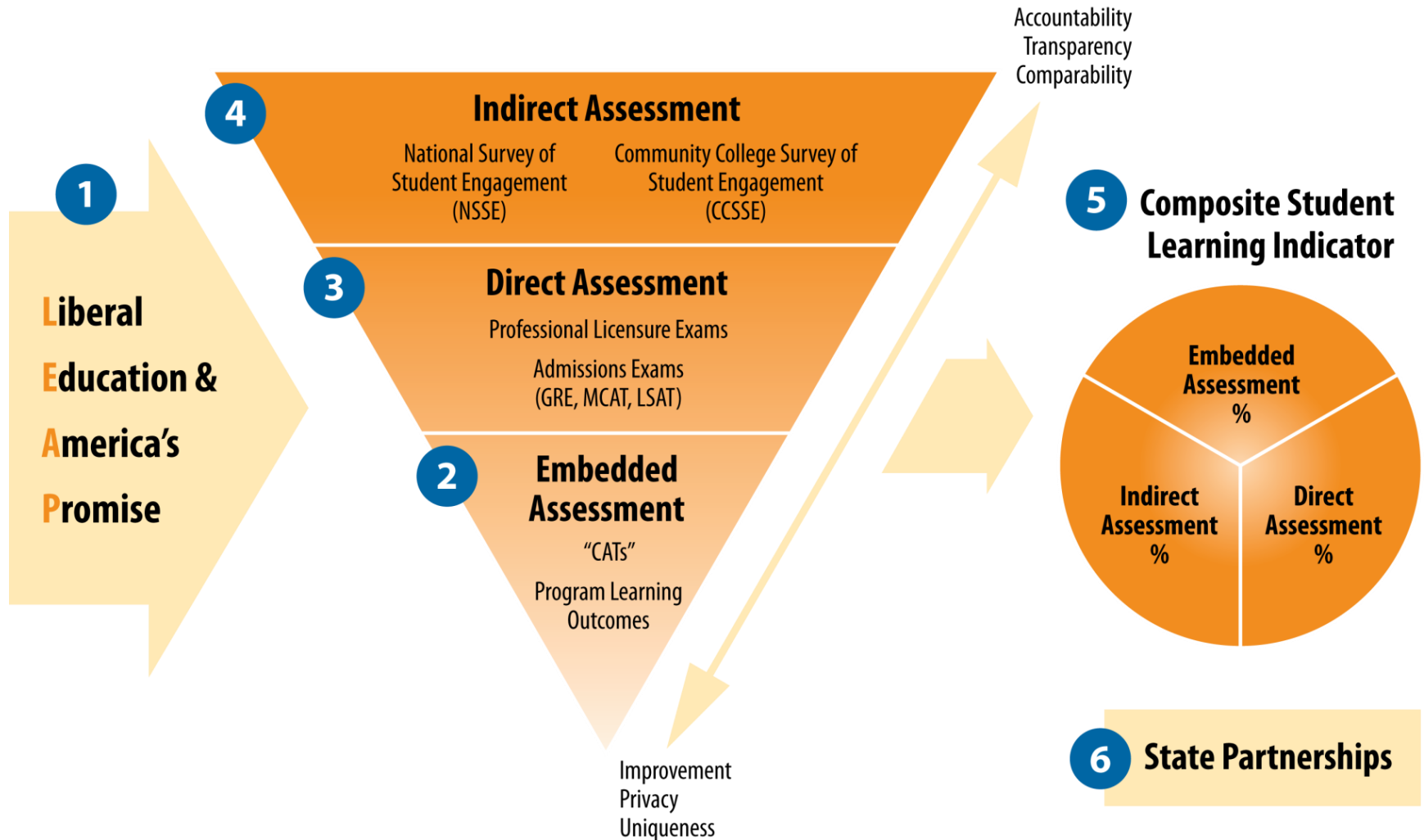
Phase 1 - Focus on “best practices” on each campus

- Foundation Grant
 - Expert help to campuses
 - System-wide leadership team
 - System-wide conferences
 - Experiments and pilots
- Build trust, credibility, support

Phase 2 - Based on faculty work & widely acceptable to faculty

- An embedded assessment that can be scaled to system level

A Model for Statewide Learning Outcomes Assessment in Massachusetts





College Participation

Vision Project – College Participation

Collaborating Across Sectors

- Shared definition of college definition by 2013
- Campus driven
- Structure for cross-sector engagement at local, regional and state levels
 - Presidents
 - Faculty Leadership
 - Regional Readiness Centers
 - Statewide Conferences
- Building understanding trust, credibility, support, structure

Leveraging Other Initiatives

Leverage Connections

- Achieve – ADP
- RT₃
- PARCC
- College Readiness Partnership
- Core to College
- Future ReadyY

Conclusion

- Steps
 - Reframe debate
 - Pound pavement – (academic, business, media)
 - Leverage timing – state & national economic context, pressure
 - Campus leadership and engagement
- Essentials
 - Mission – a higher purpose
 - Money – public & private (PIF, Foundation Grants)
 - Metrics – annual report
- ROI

THANK YOU!

Aundrea Kelley

Massachusetts Department of Higher Education

akelley@bhe.mass.edu